



# EVY LEIBFARTH

1x Olympian  
Top Ranked American in Canoe, Kayak, and Kayak Cross  
2x Junior World Champion  
Pan-American Champion  
U.S. National Champion

 @evykayak

  
www.pnasuk.com



# HER STORY

Evy grew up in Bryson City, North Carolina, and has been a member of the U.S. National Canoe Slalom Team since 2019. She competes in three events: Women's Canoe (which made its Olympic debut in Tokyo), Women's Kayak, and Women's Extreme slalom, joining the Olympic line-up in 2024. Evy hopes to win an Olympic medal one day, and she wants to inspire the next generation of up-and-coming athletes along the way.

Evy is a biology/pre-med student at Davidson College, and she hopes to go into sports medicine. When she's not canoeing, kayaking, or studying, Evy likes to mountain bike, surf, skateboard, snowboard, trail run, and grab coffee with friends. She also enjoys cooking and baking, and she always travels with her art supplies so she can relax between training sessions and stay calm before races.

Evy has always loved to compete and spent five years as a competitive gymnast before settling on canoe slalom full-time. She loves the way a slalom boat moves through the water, the feeling she gets when she goes fast, and the challenge of negotiating the gates. Canoe slalom has shown her the world, introduced her to new friends and cultures, and given her the chance to train with amazing people—all while pushing herself to be the best athlete and person she can be.



When Evy was twelve, she was too young to make the U.S. team, but her dad made a bet with her: If she won Junior Team trials that year, they would travel as a family to Europe so she could compete in the Junior World Cup races. Evy won the bet, and they spent the summer training and racing throughout Germany, Slovenia, and Austria. Evy was hooked on canoe slalom—and on traveling the world—and her family started to chase training and racing opportunities year-round, spending summers in Europe and winters in Australia and New Zealand.

After a couple of years bouncing between the Northern and Southern hemispheres, Evy's mom was diagnosed with an aggressive type of breast cancer.



Her parents decided it would be best if Evy continued training abroad while her mom underwent a year of treatment at home. Evy lived and trained with a canoe slalom family in Slovenia and relished the independence, knowing her mom was in good hands back home. The trip was a success, and so was her mom's treatment. The next year, they began traveling as a family again—just in time for Evy's first season on the World Cup circuit.

In 2019, Evy was finally old enough to make the U.S. National team, and she had an incredible first season. At just 15 years old, Evy brought home two World Cup medals, two Junior World Championships medals, and two Pan-American Championships medals. Evy also secured an Olympic quota with her fourth-place finish at the World Championships in La Seu d'Urgell, Spain.

Even though 2020 looked a little different due to the pandemic, Evy competed in two World Cups and brought home two more medals. In 2021, Evy became the Junior World Champion in Women's Kayak (and medaled in Women's Canoe), medaled at World Championships, and competed in her first Olympics. Following Tokyo, she swept all three Women's classes at the U.S. National Championships.

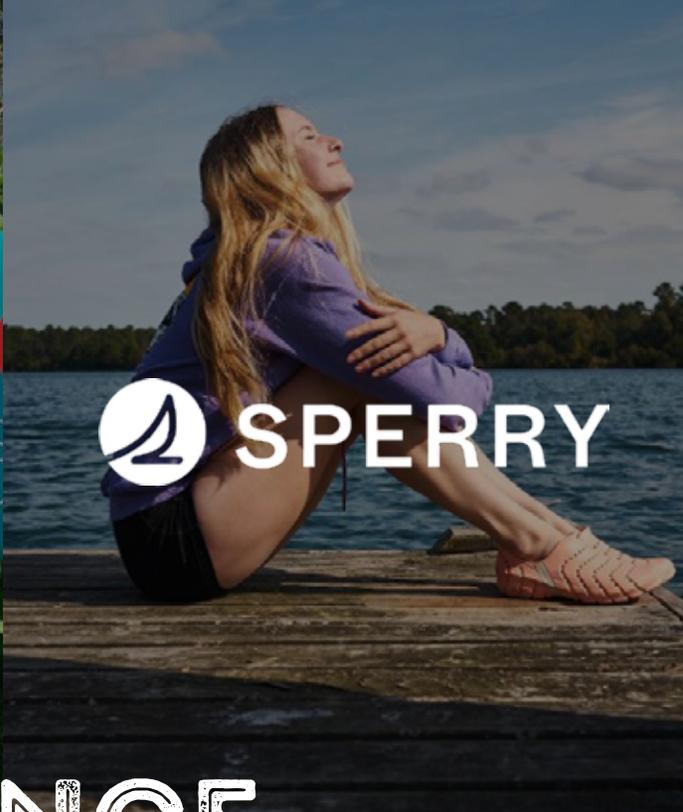
Evy's dad is still her coach, and he still makes every workout fun—well, at least most of them! Her mom is her biggest fan and arranges their (incredibly complicated) logistics—flying with a canoe and kayak around the world is never easy. Evy is excited to keep training and racing around the world and looks forward to representing the U.S. at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games (and beyond) while encouraging the next generation of canoe slalom athletes to chase her.



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SPERRY

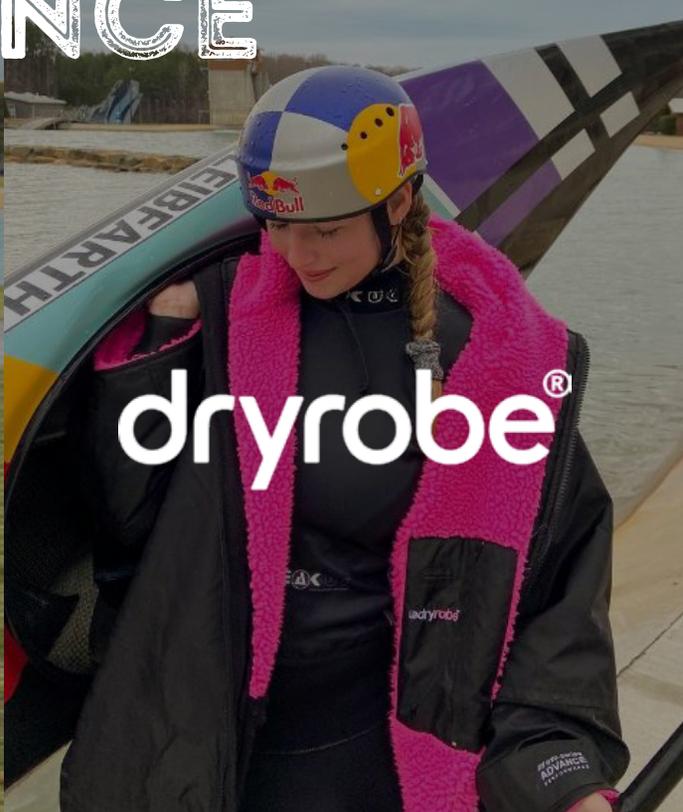
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